# Edip Yuksel vs. Ali Sina Round 3 Part 7

## Edip Yuksel vs. Ali Sina

### Round III

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## Can The Quran Stand Alone?

The "Quran Only" Muslims have taken the position to deny anything that has to do with Muhammad. They erroneously believe, once Muhammad is out of the picture and his crimes are hidden from the eyes of the critics they can win the day and prove that the Quran is a miracle. This is absurd. The Quran is the word of Muhammad and cannot be separate from him.

Unless you, dear Edip,  respond to all objections I presented, I declare this case is closed and move to demonstrate that the Quran is a book of ignorance and terror.

But first I will discredit the Quran and will prove that without the hadith this book is obtuse and utterly incomprehensible.

The Quran cannot be understood on its own. To understand the Quran we must understand its context. In Arabic it is called “sha’ne nozool” or the circumstances in which the verses were “revealed” and the states of affair that they address. Without understanding the history behind each verse you can’t understand the Quran. Take the example of Sura 111

"Perish the hands of the Father of Flame! Perish he!
No profit to him from all his wealth, and all his gains!
Burnt soon will he be in a Fire of Blazing Flame!
His wife shall carry the (crackling) wood - As fuel!-
A twisted rope of palm-leaf fibre round her (own) neck!"

This is the entire sura. It is a small sura consisting of five verses of cursing. If you do not know anything about the story behind this sura you do not understand it.

Let us take another example:

Sura 38:41-44
"And remember Our servant Ayyub, when he called upon his Lord: The Shaitan has afflicted me with toil and torment.
Urge with your foot; here is a cool washing-place and a drink.
And We gave him his family and the like of them with them, as a mercy from Us, and as a reminder to those possessed of understanding.

And take in your hand a green branch and beat her with It and do not break your oath; surely We found him patient; most excellent the servant! Surely he was frequent m returning (to Allah)".

Do these verses make any sense on their own?

Examples abound. In fact most of the Quran cannot be understood without knowing its context.

How do we know the context of these verses? They are mostly in *tafseer*. Tafseer means explanation, clarification, interpretation, etc. The interpreters/commentators of the Quran (mofasserin) base their interpretations on the hadith and the books of history.

For example Sura 9 consists of two parts. The first part is called Bara'at (redemption) and the second part is called Tawbah (repentance). You can't understand this Sura unless you know what they refer to. The Bara'at was written during the invasion of Mecca. It is called Bara'at because in this part of the Sura allegedly God is telling Muhammad that he is free to break his treaties with the pagans unilaterally. All the verses refer to that occasion. The Tawbah was written when Muhammad returned from the war of Tabuk and found a few Muslims had stayed behind and had not gone to war. He ordered the population of Medina to not talk to these deserters and even ordered that their wives move out of their homes. For forty days no one talked to these people and passed them by as if they were invisible. After forty days Muhammad accepted their repentance and in this Sura he laid the conditions of repentance.

These details are in the history and in hadith. You cannot understand this sura and any sura, properly without knowing the history behind it.

As you see the Quranonly people can't even understand the Quran without the hadith and sira. What interpretation can they give us when they deny the background and the context of the Quran?